

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1 to 7 and 10 to 16 as follows. The claims, as pending in the subject application, read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A bulk purchase group management server connectable with at least one terminal through a network, comprising:

receiving means for receiving, from said terminal operated by a purchaser, a request for a group bulk purchase indicating a product to be purchased;

notifying means for notifying said terminal of an ID uniquely corresponding to said group bulk purchase;

storage means for storing a purchase state for satisfying a condition of the group purchase, wherein said purchase state corresponds corresponding to said ID;

update means for updating said purchase state stored in said storage means when a purchase of the product indicated in said group bulk purchase is performed using said ID by another purchaser; and

control means for giving a special favor to the purchasers on the basis of the purchase state stored in said storage means,

wherein after a passage of a time period included in the condition, said control means gives the special favor to the purchasers if the purchase state stored in said storage means satisfies the condition of the group purchase, and does not give the special favor to the purchaser if the purchase state does not satisfy the condition of the group purchase.

2. (Currently Amended) A purchase group management server according to claim 1, wherein the said special favor is a discount of the purchase price of the product indicated in said group ~~bulk~~ purchase.

3. (Currently Amended) A purchase group management server according to claim 1, wherein said special favor is given to each member of said group ~~bulk~~ purchase who purchased said product using the said ID.

4. (Currently Amended) A purchase group management server according to claim 1, wherein said control means gives said special favor to the purchasers after the group ~~bulk~~ purchase received is completed.

5. (Currently Amended) A purchase group management server according to claim 1, wherein said notifying means notifies said terminal of a purchase period of said product with said ID.

6. (Currently Amended) A purchase group management server according to claim 1, wherein said request includes a payment method for said group ~~bulk~~ purchase, and said control means performs payment or reception of money by a method designated by said payment method upon at least one of cases of selling said product and of giving said special favor.

7. (Currently Amended) A purchase group management server according to claim 1, wherein said request includes a payment method for the purchasers, and

said control means performs payment or reception of money between it and each purchaser by a method designated by said payment method upon at least one of cases of selling said product and of giving said special favor.

8. to 9. (Cancelled).

10. (Currently Amended) A terminal connected through a network with a bulk purchase group management server, wherein the network with a bulk purchase group management server comprises:

receiving means for receiving a request for a group bulk purchase from said terminal operated by a purchaser[.];

notifying means for notifying said terminal of an ID uniquely corresponding to said group bulk purchase[.];

storage means for storing a purchase state for satisfying a condition of the group purchase, wherein said purchase state corresponds corresponding to said ID[.];

update means for updating said purchase state stored in said storage means when a purchase of a product indicated in said group bulk purchase is performed using said given ID by another purchaser; and

control means for giving a special favor to the purchaser purchasers on the basis of the purchase state stored in said storage means,

wherein said terminal is used for, in case a group bulk purchase is requested to said bulk purchase group management server, notifying said bulk purchase group management server of the request for the group bulk purchase including purchase conditions including at least the name and the number of products to be purchased,

and wherein after a passage of a time period included in the condition, said control means gives the special favor to the purchasers if the purchase state stored in said storage means satisfies the condition of the group purchase, and does not give the special favor to the purchaser if the purchase state does not satisfy the condition of the group purchase.

11. (Currently Amended) A group bulk purchase method comprising the steps of:

receiving a request for the group bulk purchase from a terminal having an ID in case a request for said group bulk purchase indicating a product to be purchased is made;

notifying the terminal having the ID uniquely corresponding to said group bulk purchase in case the request for said group bulk purchase is received;

storing a purchase state for satisfying a condition of the group purchase, wherein said purchase state corresponds corresponding to the ID;

updating said purchase state stored in said step of storing a purchase state in case a purchase of the product indicated in said group bulk purchase is performed using the ID by a purchaser; and

giving a special favor to the purchaser on the basis of the purchase state stored in said step of storing a purchase state,

wherein after a passage of a time period included in the condition, the special favor is given to the purchaser in said step of giving the special favor if the purchase state stored in said step of storing a purchase state satisfies the condition of the group purchase, and the special favor is not given to the purchaser if the purchase state does not satisfy the condition of the group purchase.

12. (Currently Amended) A program for executing a process for a special favor to each member of a group bulk purchase, the process comprising the steps of:

receiving a request for the group bulk purchase from a terminal having an ID in case a request for said group bulk purchase indicating a product to be purchased is made;

notifying the terminal having the ID uniquely corresponding to said group bulk purchase in case the request for said group bulk purchase is received;

storing a purchase state for satisfying a condition of the group purchase,
wherein said purchase state corresponds corresponding to the ID;

updating said purchase state stored in said step of storing a purchase state in case a purchase of the product indicated in said group bulk purchase is performed using the ID by a purchaser; and

giving a special favor to the purchaser on the basis of the purchase state stored in said step of storing a purchase state,

wherein after a passage of a time period included in the condition, the special favor is given to the purchaser in said step of giving the special favor if the purchase state stored in said step of storing a purchase state satisfies the condition of the group purchase, and the special favor is not given to the purchaser if the purchase state does not satisfy the condition of the group purchase.

13. (Currently Amended) A recording medium storing a program for executing a process for giving a special favor in a group bulk purchase, the process comprising the steps of:

receiving a request for the group bulk purchase from a terminal having an ID in case a request for said group bulk purchase indicating a product to be purchased is made;

notifying the terminal having the ID uniquely corresponding to said group bulk purchase in case the request for said group bulk purchase is received;

storing a purchase state for satisfying a condition of the group purchase, wherein said purchase state corresponds corresponding to the ID;

updating said purchase state stored in said step of storing a purchase state in case a purchase of the product indicated in said group bulk purchase is performed using the ID by a purchaser; and

giving a special favor to the purchaser on the basis of the purchase state stored in said step of storing a purchase state,

wherein after a passage of a time period included in the condition, the special favor is given to the purchaser in said step of giving the special favor if the

purchase state stored in said step of storing a purchase state satisfies the condition of the group purchase, and the special favor is not given to the purchaser if the purchase state does not satisfy the condition of the group purchase.

14. (Currently Amended) A selling system comprising:

receiving means for receiving a request for a group bulk purchase from a terminal having an ID in case a request for said group bulk purchase indicating a product to be purchased is made;

notifying means for notifying the terminal having the ID uniquely corresponding to said group bulk purchase in case the request for said group bulk purchase is received;

storage means for storing a purchase state for satisfying a condition of the group purchase, wherein said purchase state corresponds corresponding to the ID;

update means for updating said purchase state stored in said storage means when a purchase of the product indicated in said group bulk purchase is performed using the ID by a purchaser; and

control means for giving a special favor to the purchaser on the basis of the purchase state stored in said storage means,

wherein after a passage of a time period included in the condition, said control means gives the special favor to the purchaser if the purchase state stored in said storage means satisfies the condition of the group purchase, and does not give the special favor to the purchaser if the purchase state does not satisfy the condition of the group purchase.

15. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 14, wherein said receiving means for receiving the request of said group bulk purchase receives information capable of identifying a purchase period, the number of products to be purchased, and all purchasers when receiving the request of said group bulk purchase.

16. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 14, further comprising a data base for storing group bulk purchase information received through said receiving means for receiving the request.

17. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 14, wherein said system comprises means for calculating the special favor generates a purchase condition management table made up from information for identifying a purchaser, a purchase period, and a purchase date.

18. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 17, wherein said control means for receiving a request updates said purchase condition management table in case the order of a purchaser is completed.